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**Introduced by Senator Corbett**

April 15, 2011

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Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 40—Relative to emergency services.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 40, as introduced, Corbett. Emergency services: earthquake preparedness.

This measure would declare the month of April as California Earthquake Preparedness Month.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, The Federal Emergency Management Agency  
2 estimates that of the nation's \$4,400,000,000 average annual capital  
3 losses due to earthquakes, three-fourths of those losses occur in  
4 California; and

5 WHEREAS, Major earthquakes registering magnitudes between  
6 6.3 and 8.3 have occurred in California every 5.4 years, on average,  
7 for the past 200 years; and

8 WHEREAS, These earthquakes have resulted in loss of life,  
9 significant property damage, and indirect costs; and

10 WHEREAS, The United States Geological Survey estimates  
11 that there is a 62 percent chance that a major earthquake will strike  
12 an urban area in California within the next 30 years; and

13 WHEREAS, The majority of Californians live within 20 miles  
14 of a major earthquake fault; and

15 WHEREAS, Mitigating measures can save lives, reduce property  
16 damage, and alleviate traffic and economic dislocation caused by  
17 earthquakes; and

1 WHEREAS, The Federal Emergency Management Agency  
2 estimates that for every dollar spent on earthquake mitigation, \$2  
3 to \$6 are saved if an earthquake occurs; and

4 WHEREAS, Education about the danger of earthquakes in  
5 California and the value of mitigation is the key to taking action  
6 at the city, county, and state levels of government; and

7 WHEREAS, It is important for these levels of government to  
8 work cooperatively with citizens, each other, the federal  
9 government, and other nations to mitigate damage caused by  
10 earthquakes; and

11 WHEREAS, It is important for utilities and private businesses  
12 to understand the impacts of an earthquake and be properly  
13 prepared and informed of potential risks; and

14 WHEREAS, We have seen the destruction that could be caused  
15 by a tsunami that follows a large earthquake; and

16 WHEREAS, It is vital that we examine the lessons learned from  
17 recent earthquake in Baja, as well as in the nations of Japan and  
18 Chile, and that we share our knowledge with other states and  
19 nations; now, therefore, be it

20 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*  
21 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature hereby declares the month  
22 of April as California Earthquake Preparedness Month, and urges  
23 all Californians and government agencies to engage in education,  
24 evaluation of seismic hazards, mitigation, safety activities, and the  
25 exchange of information related to earthquake preparedness with  
26 other states and nations during the month; and be it further

27 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of  
28 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.